GOD's DREADFUL JUDGEMENT UPON An EMINENT PERSON IN THE Upper Lorain, Who was Wonderfully Transformed INTO A DOG:

Atteſted in a Letter to a Friend,

By one *RICHARD MARS*,

Who was an eye-witneſs thereof;

And is at preſent a Lodger in the houſe of Mr *Lyncol* a Grocer in St. *Alban*-ſtreet.

With Permiſſion.

London, Printed for *D. M.* 1675.

GOD's Dreadful Judgment UPON An Eminent Person IN THE Upper Loraine.

SIR,

IN answer to yours, you may be pleased to know, that it was my Fortune a while ago, to travel in the *Upper Loraine*, a Country bordering upon *Germany*; where hearing the report of a very strange Dog being carried to several places in a Cart, with a Clergy-man and others attending upon it; I had a great desire to see it, and know what it should mean. At last, coming to a Town called *Argentea*, being a Garrison wherein I quartered, I understood that it was brought to an Abby

called *Frankendale*, in which there was a Convent of Fryers. This place being but five or six Leagues off, my curiosity led me thither to be fully satisfied of the truth thereof: where being come, I saw a Creature of the perfect shape and form of a Dog, not distinguishable from other Dogs in any respect, as to shape and form, save only the hairs of his head, which were long, and hanging down very low, in the perfect likeness of the natural hairs of a mans head. It was a little bigger than the ordinary size of your common Mastiff dogs; all of a black colour, (only the hairs, which were of a brownish colour) and very dreadful to behold. I must confess unto you, I could no behold it without admiration, especially seeing those hairs, which are only proper to mankinde, and contrary to the nature of Dogs, or any other creature: But my astonishment was more, when they aver'd unto me that he was constantly heard to speak twice every day two or three words in a perfect dialect, plain, and intelligible to all that heard him. The constant words that he repeated, were, *O que Dieu est juste! O how just is God!* These words, I have not heard spoken by this Creature my self; having not leisure enough to attend him, or be any long while absent from my Garrison; but during my stay there, I saw him attended upon by a Fryer of the Franciscan Order, and both were carried in a Cart, and that only to places where people resorted

resorted unto for Sanctity, or Devotion, as they frequent much in those Countries. I made it my business to know what all this should mean; and the best account that I could learn, was as followeth.

In that part of the *Upper Lorraine* which is next to *Germany*, there lived one who went by the title of a Grave or Lord: This person wanted now Means enough to live happy and contented, if Avarice (which ever wants) had not blinded him with too insatiable a desire of becoming wealthy and potent; whereby the weak and poor which lived under his power and reach were forced to bear the burthen of his oppressions, and to suffer by his greedy extortions. At length it happened that one of his Tenants died, leaving behinde him a Wife and three or four small Children, who had scarce any other way of sustenance, but what they received from one little Cow that she had. The news of his death came no sooner to this Graves knowledge, but he orders one of his Bayliffs to seize on the poor Widdows Cow, on colour of a Custom used in some parts of that Country, which allowed the Landlord a Heriot upon the death of any Tenant. The aforesaid Bayliff seizes on the only Cow this poor woman had in the world, and puts the same in his Masters possessions: whereupon the woman goes and addresses her self to her Landlord, and

sets

sets forth to him, in the most lamentable manner that she could, the miserable condition she was reduc'd unto by the death of her Husband; her Poverty, and the great charge of children that she had; begging him to leave her her Cow, to preserve her self and her children from starving. But he, without taking any pitie of her condition, or affording her any relief, caused her to be turn'd away with many threats and abuses: and so the poor woman being left to her tears, and altogether fallen into despair, she fell to dreadful Imprecations against him, invoking God *that he would inflict some heavie Judgement upon him, and shew him no more mercie than he did to her.* In which sad manner she went away, and departed from him.

Within some little while after, it happened that there fell a strange and unusual Murrain among his Cattle, insomuch that neither Cow, Horse, Sheep, or any other sort of what he possessed in the world, was left him alive: whereat he was so confounded, thus to see all his Stock perish in that manner before his face; and his Conscience convincing him that God might do this to avenge his oppressing of the poor woman; he became so extravagantly enraged, that he takes his case of Pistols, and comes to a place where the Picture of our Saviour was as hanging on the Cross, and discharges them at the same, saying, *Now thou*

God

God, who out of revenge hast done all this slaughter on my Beasts, send now, if thou canst, Dogs enough to devour them. Upon which, they say, he was immediately transformed into the shape and form of that Dog that I saw at *Frankredale.*

After this, the Lady his wife seeing the heavie hand of God thus fallen upon her husband, sent for several able Divines, and other devout persons, to obtain, by the assistance of their Prayers, if it were Gods blessed will, to restore him again to his former shape. But all proving ineffectual, they advised her to send him to some other places of Devotion, or where any Godly persons lived, in hopes still that some just persons Prayers may be heard at last.

And further, one thing more is remarkable, which the Fryer that attended on him, and others, told me, *viz.* That when the Lady intended to send him away in her Coach, the horses would in no manner budge from the place, notwithstanding all the means they used; so that she was forced to make tryal of a Cart, which carryed him without any difficulty.

The

The circumstance of this Relation I saw in Print when I was in that Country; and I did likewise hear it confirmed by divers credible persons there upon the place; no body making any doubt of the truth thereof.

What I saw with my own eyes, I have faithfully reported; and whosoever has a desire to be further satisfied in the matter, may repair to Mr. *Lyncot*'s house, a Grocer in S. *Albans* Street, where I am at present lodged, and shall be ready to deliver the truth to my knowledge.

Dated the Third of *August*, 1675.

Richard Mare.

BRITISH MUSEUM 26 AP 71

FINIS.